



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**RE** APPLICATION OF: THEODORE M. TAYLOR  
APPLICATION No.: 09/939,432  
FILED: AUGUST 24, 2001  
FOR: **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
CONDITIONING A CONTACT SURFACE OF  
A PROCESSING PAD USED IN  
PROCESSING MICROELECTRONIC  
WORKPIECES**

EXAMINER: EZIAMARA  
ANTHONY OJINI  
ART UNIT: 3723  
CONFIRMATION No.: 2793

**Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Notice of Allowability mailed March 30, 2004, the Examiner allowed claims 48-50, 53-56 and 58-66. Although the applicant's attorney agrees with the Examiner's conclusion that these claims are allowable, the applicant's attorney notes that the claims may be allowable for reasons other than those identified by the Examiner and does not concede that the Examiner's characterizations of the terms of the claims and the prior art are correct.

Respectfully submitted,  
Perkins Coie LLP

David T. Dutcher  
Registration No. 51,638

Date: June 29, 2004

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